

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING
COPYRIGHTED ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Abstract

Copyrighted electronic media are packaged in a secure electronic format, and
5 registered on associated registration server, which serves to provide on-line licensing and
copyright management for that media. Users are connected to the server, e.g., through a
computer network or the Internet, to enable data transfers and to transact licenses to
utilize the media. Packaged electronic media are typically created by an author or
derivative user of the work. Once the packaged media is registered on the server, the
10 media is made available for limited use and possible license through an authorization
server. This limited use is specified within the minimum permissions data set assigned to
each packaged media. Without a license, users are typically permitted to view the
packaged media--through a system which unpackages the media--but cannot save or
otherwise transfer the media without obtaining auxiliary permissions to do so from the
15 authorization server. The electronic media is authenticated through digital signatures and
optional encryption.